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NANTYGLO AND BLAINA  
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.  
REPORT  
OF THE  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
FOR THE  
YEAR 1967



ANNUAL REPORT  
OF THE  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
TO THE  
NANTYGLO AND BLAINA URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL  
FOR THE YEAR 1967

To the Chairman and Members of the Nantyglo & Blaina Urban District Council

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report for 1967.

The Registrar General's Population figure for the Urban Area is 11,070 an increase of 60 on last years figures.

The general health of the people during the past year has been very good. With an absence of any serious outbreaks of disease, the following tables show that on the whole, infectious diseases notified were confined to children's diseases such as measles.

The number of cases of tuberculosis was again very small, and this trend will undoubtedly continue, due to modern drugs and treatment.

I would like to thank the members of the Council and staff for their co-operation during the year.

Yours faithfully,

J. Walters Bowen, M.B., B.Ch., B.Sc. D.P.H.  
Medical Officer of Health.



NANTYGLO AND BLAINA URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

1967

Chairman of the Council.

Councillor N. Slocombe.

Vice-Chairman

Councillor J. H. Durban.

Chairman of the Public Health Committee

Councillor W. J. A. Clarke.

Chairman of the Public Works Committee

Councillor F. Axford.

Chairman of the Housing Committee

Councillor W. H. Jones.

Chairman of the Finance Committee

Councillor D. F. Griffiths.

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NORTH WARD

Councillor A. Jones.

Councillor J. H. Durban.

Councillor A. R. Fawke.

Councillor W. J. A. Clarke.

Councillor M. B. Dally.

CENTRAL WARD

Councillor W. H. Jones.

Councillor W. C. Gomery,

Councillor E. J. Davies.

Councillor B. Thomas.

Councillor N. Slocombe.

SOUTH WARD

Councillor F. Axford.

Councillor T. Jenkins.

Councillor D. F. Griffiths.

Councillor W. D. Morris.

Councillor W. S. James.

OFFICERS OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Medical Officer of Health

Dr. J. Walters Bowen N.B., BCh.,  
B.Sc., D.P.H.

Public Health Inspector


D. J. Herrington, M.R.S.H., M.P.H.I.A.

Rodent Officer

A. Davies.

Shops Inspector

D. J. Herrington.



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## Statistics and Social Conditions of the Urban Area

The Urban area of Nantyglo and Blaina is situated towards the head of the Western Valley of Monmouthshire, the northern most part, Nantyglo forming the boundary between Brynmawr and the County of Breconshire.

The industrial development of the area began when the Nantyglo ironworks were built in 1795. They were soon closed down, however, and remained so until bought in 1811 by Joseph and Crawshay Bailey, two of the most important men on the early iron and coal trade.

As a result of these early industries the township rapidly developed, and the next fifty years saw the sinking of numerous pits as the demand for coal increased.

People flocked to the area from all parts of the County, and some from much farther afield, until 1891 there was a population of some 12,000.

Many of the houses erected at this time to accomodate the swollen population are in existence today, forming a large proportion of the inhabited dwellings, and it was only during last year that the original row of cottages, built with the Nantyglo Ironworks, was demolished.

Thus the aftermath of the industrial era is reflected in the present day problems of bad housing, and shortages of accommodation, which in spite of the Council's efforts in slum clearance, and rebuilding of new houses, still remains very much to the fore.

The old industries, have, of course, long since gone, and only one colliery now produces coal, but they have been superseded by a number of modern factories erected in the Nantyglo area, the largest of which "Semtex" is one of the largest of its kind in the Country.

It is on these factories, and to a greater extent, the steelworks mines and factories of neighbouring authorities, that the greater proportion of the working population depend for their living.

These new industries have given a new lease of life to the community which not many years ago was in the throes of depression.

Even so, the members of the Council have not spared themselves in their efforts to create an interest in the area, and the setting up of a joint development committee with the Brynmawr and Abertillery Urban District Council's has done much to project the area's potential to industrialists.

As the prosperity of the area has increased so has the demand for a higher standard of living, especially from the younger generation, who are not content to bring up their families under conditions accepted by their grandparents.

They now require, bathrooms, indoor toilets and constant hot water and the implementation by the Council of the Standard and Discretionary Grant Schemes has done much to provide these essential amenities.

Even so, a great percentage of old houses are without these amenities, and let us hope that the day is not too far distant, when a dwelling without these amenities will no longer be classed as fit for human habitation.

The housing problem still remains acute, not only does the area contain a large number of unfit and sub-standard dwellings which must be either cleared or improved, but also many of the Council's houses have dual tenancies, a large number of which must be considered for rehousing.

The 56 houses at the Bryncelyn Estate were completed during the year, and work at the Wesley Buildings Site well advanced. The 26 houses being erected on this site were to full Parker Morris Standard, with warm air central heating. These are the first of such houses to be built in the area, and the Council have agreed that this standard will be continued in the Glanvstruth Estate, where sixty two three bedroomed and twenty eight two bedroomed houses are to be erected, and are well under way.

Approximately sixty of these houses have been allocated to families to be rehoused from clearance areas, and areas to be developed by the Council in future schemes.

There will still be large numbers of sub-standard houses left in the district however and the Council must seriously consider the Pearks Row, Griffiths Row area for clearance in the very near future.



## HOUSING ACT, 1957

### HOUSING STATISTICS.

#### 1. Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the Year.

- (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects under the Public Health of Housing Act. Approx. 160
- (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose 170
- (c) Number of dwellings, included under sub-headings (a) above which were inspected and recorded under the Housing consolidated Regulations 1925 and 1936 40
- (d) Number of inspections made for the purpose 50
- (e) Number of dwellings found to be in a state so injurious of dangerous as to be unfit for human habitation 40
- (f) Number of dwellingshouses (exclusive to those referred to under the proceeding sub-headings) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation and subsequently repaired as a result of action by the Local Authority 2

#### 2. Remedy of Defects during the year Without service of Formal Notices

- Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority 1

#### 3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year

- (a) Proceedings under Sections 9,10, and 12 of the Housing Act, 1967
  - (i) Number of dwelling houses in which notices were served requiring repairs Nil
  - (ii) Number of houses in which defects were remedied after service of Formal Notices by owners Nil
  - (iii) By Local Authority in default of owners Nil
- (b) Proceedings under the Public Health Acts
  - (i) Number of dwelling houses in which Formal Notices were served requiring defects to be remedied 1
  - (ii) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of Formal Notices
    - By owners 1
    - By Local Authority in default of owners Nil
- (c) Proceedings under Sections 16 and 23 of the Housing Act, 1957
  - (i) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of demolition orders 19
  - (ii) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made Nil
  - (iii) Number of undertakings accepted that houses will not be used for human habitation Nil
  - (iv) Number of Houses closed in pursuance of Closing Orders made under Section 17 of the Housing Act, 1957 1
  - (v) Number of part dwellings closed in pursuance of Closing Orders made under Section 18 of the Housing Act 1957 Nil

#### 4. Housing Act 1957 - Overcrowding

- (a) (i) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year No Figures
- (ii) Number of families dwelling therein.
- (iii) Number of persons dwelling therein.
- (b) (i) Number of cases of overcrowding reported during the year
- (c) (i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year
- (ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases.

- (d) (i) Particulars of any cases in which dwellings have become overcrowded after Local Authority has taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding. Nil.
- (e) (i) Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding upon which the Medical Officer of Health may consider it advisable to report Nil.

Re; 4 (c) (i) & (ii) In rehousing in slum clearance work, the Council, by a system of exchange, relieved overcrowding within Council houses and flats, and in privately owned dwellings. By so doing, the Council were able to relieve overcrowding in a great number of cases, thus utilizing their resources to the fullest possible extent.

The Council consider the problem of overcrowding to be of major importance, and are proceeding as rapidly as possible with the building of new houses. It is however difficult to assess the true position, as most of the newly married couples commence their married lives living with their parents or relatives, due to lack of other housing accommodation, often causing overcrowding at these houses. Within a short time, these young families make application to the Council for accommodation, and it is this fact which the Council have to consider when allocating newly erected houses.

It is significant, however, that the majority of houses are allocated to young families, and shows that the Council are getting on top of the housing problem. Applicants do not have to spend several years on a waiting list as was the case a few years ago. They can normally expect to be allocated a house under two years from time of making application, and with the new housing schemes envisaged, the Council can see the end of the major housing problem in sight.

#### Summary of Housing Action

No. of Clearance Orders made by Council.	Nil.
No. of Clearance Orders confirmed.	Nil.
No. of Houses in confirmed Clearance Orders.	Nil.
No. of houses in clearance areas demolished.	6.
No. of Demolition Orders made by Council.	Nil.
No. of houses demolished other than as a result of Demolition Orders	19
No. of houses demolished as a result of Demolition Orders.	19
No. of Closing Orders made by Council.	1
No. of housing closed as a result of Closing Orders.	1
No. of Closing Orders made on Part-Buildings.	Nil.
No. of undertakings to repair houses accepted by Council to prevent Orders being made on them (Section 16)	Nil.
No. of part-premises closed as a result of Closing Orders.	Nil.
No. of such undertakings completed and cancelled.	Nil.
No. of Undertakings (Informal) accepted by Council to repair houses	Nil.
No. of such undertakings completed.	Nil.
No. of Undertakings (Section 24) accepted by Council to repair, Improve, alter and reconstruct houses.	Nil.
No. of Demolition Orders revoked by Council.	Nil.
No. of Undertakings (Section 27) accepted by Council to repair, improve, alter, and reconstruct houses.	Nil.
No. of Demolition Orders revoked by Council.	Nil.
No. of Undertakings (Section 27) accepted by Council to repair, improve, alter, and reconstruct houses.	Nil.
No. of Closing Orders determined.	Nil.
No. of Undertakings (Section 27) accepted by Council to repair, improve alter and reconstruct part-premises.	Nil.
No. of Closing Orders (Part Premises) determined.	Nil.

#### Rehousing

No. of Private houses built	2.
No. of Council houses built	31.
No. of Families rehoused from Clearance Areas.	Nil.
No. of Persons rehoused from Clearance Areas.	Nil.
No. of families rehoused from houses with Demolition Orders.	5.
No. of persons rehoused from houses with Demolition Orders.	14.
No. of families rehoused from houses with Closing Orders.	2.
No. of persons rehoused from houses with Closing Orders.	7.
No. of families rehoused from part-buildings with Closing Orders.	Nil.
No. of persons rehoused from part-buildings with Closing Orders.	Nil.
No. of families rehoused from houses with Informal Closing Orders.	Nil.



No. of families rehoused by exchange of Council houses	-
No. of persons rehoused by exchange of Council houses	-
No. of families rehoused (General Needs)	31
No. of persons rehoused (General Needs)	-
No. of Sub-tenants granted tenancies - families	11
No. of Sub-tenants granted tenancies - persons	-
No. of families housed as Sub-tenants in Council houses	9
No. of persons housed as Sub-tenants in Council houses	-
No. of families left Council houses and rehoused elsewhere	31
No. of persons left Council houses and rehoused elsewhere	-
Total No. of families rehoused during the year by Council	48
Total No. of persons rehoused during the year by Council	Not known.
No. of families due for rehousing that rehoused themselves	Not known,
No. of persons in above	-

Housing (Financial Provisions) Act, 1958 and  
Housing Purchase and Housing Act, 1959

The Housing (Financial Provisions) Act, 1958, was the consolidating Act relating to housing finance and contained provision relating to Discretionary Grants.

The Housing Purchase and housing Act, 1959, amended existing legislation relating to Discretionary Grants had in addition brought out a new type of grant known as a Standard Grant. The new grant simplified procedure where five standard amenities only were required to improve dwellings, these being the provision of a bath in a separate room, an indoor toilet, or toilet adjoining the house; hot water supply wash hand basin, and a ventilated food store. The maximum amount of grant payable being £155 per dwelling made up as follows:

Bath (or fixed shower) £25	Wash hand basin £5
Hot water supply £75	W. C. £40
	Food Store £10

The Discretionary which the Council may implement is designed to accomplish major improvements to dwelling houses, and under this scheme a grant of £400 maximum per dwelling or conversion, may be payable.

The administration of both Standard and Discretionary Grants is carried out by the Surveyor's Department, and I am indebted to the Surveyor Mr. G. D. Barnes, who kindly provided the following information.

Grants for Improvements of Conversion

No. of Applications received	Nil
No. of Applications approved	Nil
Amounts paid	Nil

Improvements

No. of Applications received	No figures.
No. of Applications approved	8
Amount of Grants paid	£4209 - 12 - 10d.

Standard Grants for Improvement of Dwellings

No. of Applications received	No figures available.
No. of Applications approved	6
Amount of Grants paid	£1565 - 11 - 2d.
No. of Inspections carried out	No figures available.
No. of Re-inspections carried out	No figures available.
No. of Applications cancelled	No figures available.
(a) Works already done	" " "
(b) Other causes	" " "
Visits to work in progress	" " "

No. of persons rehoused from houses with Informal Closing Orders.	Nil.
No. of families rehoused by Indirect Rehousing (I.e. by exchange to privately owned houses)	Not known
No. of persons rehoused from above	Not known
No. of houses purchased by agreement	23.
No. of families rehoused from houses purchased by agreement	11.

HOUSING POSITION - 31st December, 1967

No. of Private Dwellings.	2375
No. of Public Housings (Plus Dwellings).	12
No. of Council Owned Houses	1406
No. of Council houses & flats	
Total dwellings in area.	3793
No. of houses vacant as a result of action under Housing Acts etc.	75
No. of houses and flats built by the Nantyglo and Blaina Council in 1966	67
No. built by private individuals	4
Additional Dwellings by conversion	Nil
In course of construction at the end of 1966	
Bryncelyn 32	32
Wesley Buildings	26
No. of houses demolished under Housing Act 1957	19
No. of houses closed	1
No. of part-premises closed	-
	<hr/> 20 <hr/>
Rateable Value of District April 1967	£198,956
Product of penny rate for the Financial Year ended 31st March, 1967	£756 - 18 - 8d
Rates in the £	
General rate	15/-
Water rate - Net Annual Value not exceeding £31	£2 - 0 - Od.
Net Annual Value exceeding £31	1/8d in £
Area of District in Acres	3.862.



# VITAL STATISTICS

	Nantyglo and Blaina U.D.C		Monmouthshire
	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u> County Council
<u>BIRTHS</u>			
No. of Legitimate live births	101	100	201
No. of illegitimate live births	5	3	8
Total live births	106	103	209
Birth rate per 1,000 population 1966			22.78
Birth rate per 1,000 population 1967			19.8
Registrar General's comparability Factor.			1.05
No. of still births legitimate	3	3	6
No. of still births illegitimate	1	1	2
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births			3.82
Total live and still births	110	107	217
Still birth rate per 1,000 Live & still births			36.86

## DEATHS

Deaths taking place within district	72	60	132	3.972
Deaths taking place outside of district and transferred in.	22	12	34	
Less deaths transferred out	10	10	20	
Net Total deaths for District	84	62	146	
Crude death rate per 1,000 pop.			13.18	11.29
Registrar General's comparability Factor			1.05	
Corrected death rate.			13.83	12.87

## MATERNAL MORTALITY

Deaths from Puerperal Causes	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Deaths from other Maternal Causes	Nil	Nil	Nil	3
Maternal Mortality rate per 1,000 live and still births				.49

## INFANT MORTALITY

Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age:				
Legitimate	2	2	4	
Illegitimate	-	1	1	
Total	2	3	5	129
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 live Births		23.44		21.82

## NEO NATAL MORTALITY

Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age.				
Legitimate	-	1	1	
Illegitimate	-	1	1	
Total	-	2	2	
Neo Natal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births		9.56		14.88

## EARLY NEO NATAL MORTALITY

Deaths of Infants Under 1 week of age				
Legitimate	-	1	1	
Illegitimate	-	1	1	
Total	-	2	2	
Early Neo Natal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births		12.50		12.51

NANTYGLO & BLAINA U.D.C.  
Male Female Total.

MONMOUTHSHIRE  
COUNTY COUNCIL

PERINATAL MORTALITY.

Deaths of Infants under  
1 week of age plus number  
of still births

No. of deaths under 1 week  
of age - 2 2

No. of still births 4 4 8

Perinatal Mortality Rate 46.08 29.09

CAUSES OF DEATH	Male	Female	Total
Malignant Neoplasms., Stomach	1	3	4
Malignant Neoplasm, lung bronchus	5	-	5
Malignant Neoplasm, breast	-	1	1
Other malignant lymphatic neoplasms	3	7	10
Diabetes	-	1	1
Vascular lesions of nervous system	7	12	19
Coronary disease, angina	29	6	35
Hypertension with heart disease	1	1	2
Other heart disease	7	11	18
Other circulatory disease	2	10	12
Pneumonia	3	1	4
Bronchitis	10	1	11
Other diseases of respiratory system	2	-	2
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	1	-	1
Gastritis enteritis and diarrhoea	1	-	1
Nephritis and nephrosis	1	-	1
Hyperplasia of Prostate	1	-	1
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	1	1
Congenital malformations	-	1	1
Other defined and ill defined diseases	5	4	9
Motor vehicle accidents	1	-	1
All other accidents	3	1	4
Suicide	1	1	2
Total all causes	84	62	146

PREVALENCE OF CONTROL OVER INFECTIONS AND  
OTHER DISEASES.

Arrangements for Diphtheria Immunisation of children are carried out by the School Medical Service of the Monmouthshire County Council.

Number of Cases of Notifiable Diseases. Notified during the Year.

Disease	Nantyglo & Blaina U.D.C.		
	Total No. Notified.	Males	Females.
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	3	2	1
Non Pulmonary Tuberculosis	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	1	1	-
Whooping Cough	1	-	1
Diphtheria	-	-	-
Measles	80	39	41
Pneumonia	-	-	-
Streptococcal Infection	-	-	-
Poliomyelitis	-	-	-
Encephalitis	-	-	-
Dysentery	-	-	-
Erysipelas	-	-	-
Smallpox	-	-	-
Paratyphoid Fever	-	-	-
Enteric Fever	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	-	-	-
Erysipelas	-	-	-
Chicken Pox	-	-	-
Malaria	-	-	-
Other Notifiable Diseases except Tuberculosis	-	-	-

Infections and other diseases Notified during 1967  
Age and Sex Classification

Ages	Scarlet Fever		Whooping Cough		Acute Poliomyelitis Paralytic Non-Para				Measles	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 1 year	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 year	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	5
2 year	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	4
3 years	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	9
4 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	5
5-9 years	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	14	16
10-14 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
15-24 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Age unknown	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1
Total (all ages)	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	39	41

Ages	Lobar Pneumonia		Erysipelas		Dysentery		Tuberculosis	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 5 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5-14 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15-44 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
45-64 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
65 and over	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total all ages	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1



### Food Poisoning

There were no cases of food poisoning notified during the year.

### Poliomyelitis Vaccination

There were no cases of poliomyelitis notified during the year. Immunisation is available weekly at the Blaina Clinic.

### Diphtheria

No cases of diphtheria were notified during the year.

The immunisation of the pre-school child is now carried out at the Infant Clinics by the various Medical Officers in attendance. Parents too may make private arrangements with their own general practitioners for such immunisation. To attain the maximum degree of protection by immunisation, it is advisable that booster doses should be given when the child first attends school.

### Scarlet Fever

There was one case of Scarlet Fever notified.

### Measles

There were eighty cases of Measles notified during the year.

### Whooping Cough

There was one case of whooping cough notified.

### Tuberculosis

Number of Cases as shown on Register of Persons  
Suffering from Tuberculosis during 1967

	Males.		Females		Total
	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Pulmonary	non-pul.	
No. on Register at 31.12.66	31	3	29	3	66
No. of cases notified during the year	2	-	1	-	3
No. of cases restored to Register having been previously removed.	-	-	-	-	-
No. of cases added to Register other than by formal notification	-	-	-	-	-
No. of cases removed from Register during the year	-	-	-	-	-
No. of cases remaining on Register on 31.12.67	33	3	30	3	69

There were no deaths notified as due to Tuberculosis during the year.



# Summary of Vital Statistics

	<u>Kantyglo &amp; Blaina U.D.C.</u>	<u>Monmouthshire C.C.</u>
No. of live births	209	5912
Live Birth rate per 1000 population, crude.	18.87	17.88
Live Birth rate per 1000 population adjusted	19.8	17.13
Number illegitimate live births per cent of total live births.	3.82	5.93
Number of still births	8	126
Still birth rate per 1000 total live & still births	36.86	16.99
Total of still and live births	217	6014
Total number of infant deaths (under 1 yr. old)	5	129
Infant Mortality rate per 1000 total live births	23.44	21.82
Mortality rate of legitimate infants per 1000 legitimate live births	9.9	21.57
Mortality rate of illegitimate infants per 1000 illegitimate live births	125	25.6
Neo-natal mortality rate per 1000 live births (under 4 weeks)	9.56	14.88
Early neo-natal mortality rate per 1000 live births (under 1 week)	12.50	12.51
Peri-natal mortality (still births and deaths of infants under 1 week of age) per 1000 total live and still births	46.0	29.09
Number of maternal deaths (including abortions)	Nil.	3
Maternal mortality rate per 1000 live and still births	-	0.49
Still birth rate per 1000 population	72	0.29
Total death rate per 1000 population, crude	13.18	11.29
Total death rate per 1000 population adjusted	13.83	12.87
Total number of deaths	146	3972
Estimated Mid-year population	11,070	351,740

Public Analyst.

Dr. G. V. James, M.B.E.,  
69, Dock Street, Newport, Mon.  
(Newport 63035)

Public Health Laboratory  
Service.

Dr. Gray  
The Public Health Laboratories,  
Clythia Square, Newport Mon.  
(Newport 65432).

Ambulance Facilities.

Maternity and Child Welfare.

The Clinic is situated at High  
Street Blaina, and is attended by  
the Assistant County Medical  
Officers.

Welfare.

The District Welfare Officer.  
Mr. A. H. Bell, has an Office  
at 57, Tillery Street, Abertillery.  
The Monmouthshire County Council  
have several homes for the aged  
throughout the County, a new one  
Hafod Dawel was recently opened  
at Nantyglo (Abertillery 2411).

Isolation Hospitals.

Infectious diseases requiring  
hospitalisation are admitted  
to Alt-yr-yn Isolation Hospital  
Newport, Mon.

THE SANITARY ADMINISTRATION AND CONDITIONS FOR THE YEAR 1967.

Milk Supply.

There are 8 persons licensed as dealers in pasteurised milk in accordance with the provisions of the Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949.

All milk sold in the area is 'pasteurised' and supplied by large dairy companies having pasteurisation plants in the neighbouring towns.

The registration of all milk retailers is the responsibility of the County Council, who also undertake the periodic sampling.

Ice Cream

There are 37 registered retailers and two manufacturers of ice cream within the Urban area. The retailers obtain supplies mainly from the large Ice Cream Co., who have depots sited in various parts of the Country, from which frequent deliveries to small traders are made.

One of the manufacturers uses the complete cold mix method and the other heat treatment, both conform to the requirements of the Ice Cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations, All premises in the district conform to legal requirements, and are registered in accordance with the provisions of the Food and Drugs Act.

Meat Inspections

There are no slaughterhouses in the Urban area, the bulk of the meat consumed is purchased from Weeks, Brynmawr, who also supply most of the neighbouring Authorities from the Brynmawr Abattoir.

This Abattoir was recently reconstructed on modern lines to comply with the new regulations, and with the Meat Inspection Regulations coming into force, the Brynmawr U.D.C. took complete responsibility for the inspection of all meat. Hitherto the cost of meat inspections was shared by the neighbouring authorities of Abertillery, Blaenavon, Brynmawr, Crickhowell, Ebbw Vale and Nantyglo & Blaina.

Other Foods

During the period visits were made to retail food premises, and premises where food is prepared, stored or deposited for the purpose of sale.

The following is a list of such premises.

<u>Type of Food Premises</u>	<u>Number in Area</u>
Bakeries	1
Bread Depots	3
Butchers Shops	10
Confectioners	5
Grocers	30
Greengrocers and wet fish shops	7
General Stores	19

Food Premises - Registered under Food and Drugs Act

Preparation, manufacture or storage of preserved foods (cooked meats, etc., in connection with Butchery Business)	7
Fried Fish Shops	4
Manufacture of Ice Cream	2
Storage and sale of Ice Cream.	37

Byelaws under Section 15, Food and Drugs Act, 1955

Byelaws for securing the observance of sanitary and cleanly conditions and practices in connection with the handling, wrapping and delivery of food are in operation in the Urban area.

It has not been necessary to take legal action as traders are generally co-operative in the questions of food hygiene.



## Food Hygiene Regulations

Some time was spent in implementing these regulations, when visits were made to food premises, but most of the time other work has a priority and little time could be spared in this direction.

### Inspection of Foodstuffs

During routine inspections of food premises, the undermentioned foods were examined and found to be unfit for human consumption.

- 1 tin crab.
- 9 tins cream.
- 3 tins chopped ham.
- 6 tins cooked ham.
- 1 tin grapefruit.
- 2 tins herring roes.
- 3 tins jellied veal.
- 2 tins milk.
- 6 tins peas.
- 14 tins soup.
- 8 tins selds.
- 14 tins salmon.
- 1 tin strawberries.
- 1 tin steak and kidney pudding.
- 3 tins tomatoes.
- 1 tin tongue.

### Shops Act Administration - Shops Act 1950

The administration of the Shops Act is delegated by the Monmouthshire Monmouthshire County Council to the Council, the Shops Inspector being Mr. D. J. Herrington.

During the year 59 visits were made to shops. Generally speaking shop keepers close on time, and the occasional offender, after being warned, has been brought into line. It has, therefore, been necessary to take further action.

### Factories Act, 1961

The following is a list of trades carried on within the urban area during 1967.

<u>Trade</u>	<u>No. of Factories</u>	<u>Mechanical Power Used.</u>	<u>Mechanical Power not used.</u>
Motor Vehicle Repairs	5	4	1
Light Engineering	1	1	-
Joinery	2	1	3
Boot Repairers	2	2	-
Sausages	1	1	-
Bakery	1	1	-
Garages	4	2	-
Synthetic Flooring	1	1	-
Felt	1	1	-
Form Cushions	1	1	1
	<u>20</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>5</u>

### Part VIII of the Act, Outworkers. Section 110 and 111

There are no outworkers employed in the area.

Particulars of the Administration of the Factories Act, 1961.

Inspections for purposes as to Health

	No on Register.	Inspection	No. of Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted.
1. Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4, & 6 are enforced.	5	5	Nil	Nil
2. Factories not included in 1, in which Section 7 is enforced.	15	10	Nil	Nil
3. Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced (excluding out workers)	-	-	Nil	Nil
	20	15	Nil	Nil

Cases in which Defects were found

Particulars	No of Cases in which Defects were Found.				
	Found	Remedied	To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	Prosecution Instituted
Want of Cleanliness	Nil	Nil	-	-	Nil
Overcrowding	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable Temperature	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate Ventilation	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate drainage to floors	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences	-	-	-	-	-
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	-	-	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act	-	-	-	-	-
(Not including offences relating to out-work)	-	-	-	-	-
	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil



## RENT ACT, 1957

This Act which repealed the relevant Sections appertaining to Certificates of Disrepair under the Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1957 and several other Acts and parts of Acts, came into force on the 6th July, 1957.

### First Schedule

#### Part 1 - Applications for Certificate of Disrepair

1. Number of Applications for Certificates	Nil.
2. Number of decisions not issued certificates	Nil.
3. Number of decisions to issue certificates	Nil.
(a) In respect of some, but not all defects	Nil.
(b) In respect of all defects	Nil.
4. Number of undertakings given by landlords under paragraph 5. of the First schedule	Nil.
5. Number of undertakings refused by Local Authority under proviso to paragraph 5 of first schedule	Nil.
6. Number certificates issued.	Nil.

#### Part 11 - Applications for Cancellation of Certificates

7. Application by landlords to Local Authority for Cancellation of Certificates	Nil.
8. Objections by tenants to cancellation of Certificates	Nil.
9. Decisions of Local authority to cancel in spite of tenants objections	Nil.
10. Certificates cancelled by Local authority	Nil.

### LICENSED HOTELS AND CLUBS

There are eleven licensed public houses and seven licensed clubs within the area. Routine inspections are carried out from time to time attention being given to general hygiene and sanitation.

Licensed premises in the area comply with the regulations general and works of improvement and modernisation are being carried out in practically all premises.

Standards of hygiene are on the whole good and the method of providing beer in metal 'kegs' and more recently pressurised tanks, should do much to further improve conditions.

With these methods, overspill and wastage, fairly common with the normal barrel of beer, is reduced to a minimum, and there is very little need to resort to filtering waste back to the barrel, a common enough practice which should be deplored.

### WATER SUPPLY

The water supply of the district is supplied in bulk by the Ebbw Vale Urban District Council. The service reservoir being situated at Llangynid ir Mountain Beauport. The water is chlorinated and filtered by slow filters before coming into the district.

The water supply has greatly improved since the installation of the new system several years ago, but there are still cases of inadequate supplies, due to gross corrosion of service pipes.

The water is of soft character and chemical analysis has shown that a slight solvent action is produced when in contact with lead pipes. The use of lead in service and distributing pipes is, therefore, prohibited, although permissible in hot water systems.

1. Approx. No. of gallons purchased from Ebbw Vale.	180 millions,
2. Approx. population supplied from public mains	11,000
No. samples taken	25
No. unsatisfactory	5

25 samples were taken during the year 5 of which proved to be unsatisfactory.

Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963

Regulations controlling Sanitary, conveniences and washing facilities came into force on 1st January, 1966.

Implementation of the Act is still a major difficulty due to shortage of staff, and only the minimum of time can be devoted to this work.

The number of premises registered during the year was Nil, total number of registered premises at the end of the year was 43. Total Number of employees in these premises were 178, 118 being females and 60 males.

No accidents were reported during the year, and no exemptions granted. No visits were made to registered premises during the year.

### SWIMMING BATHS

There are no public swimming baths in the area, the baths in the neighbouring areas of Abertillery, Brynmawr and Ebbw Vale being uses.

### DRAINAGE

Sewerage is on the water carriage system, subsidiary sewers being connected to the Western Valley (Mon) main trunk sewer which discharges into the sea at low water, west of the mouth of the River Usk.

### PUBLIC CLEANSING

Public Cleansing and refuse collection is controlled by the Council's Engineer and Surveyor.

The Refuse is deposited at the Council's tip at the site of the Old Cinder tip Cottages, Blaina where a useful piece of land will eventually be reclaimed.

Collections are made twice a week, but householders in the area are still persisting in depositing their refuse on open spaces near their homes.

This inexcusable practice, in my opinion, will not be remedied until each householder provides a suitable refuse receptacle.

### PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

The work of rats and mice destruction has proceeded satisfactorily and has been carried out in accordance with the provisions of the above Act.

Two maintenance treatments of the area's sewers have been completed and the results are summarised below.

#### Maintenance Treatments carried out in May 1967

Total number of manholes baited	120
Number showing complete takes of bait	5
Number showing partial takes of bait	10
Number showing no takes of bait	105

The poison used was "Warfarin"

#### Maintenance Treatment carried out in October 1967

Total number of manholes baited	150
Number showing complete takes of bait	6
Number showing partial takes of bait	9
Number showing no takes of bait	135

The poison used was again "Warfarin"

The bait was deposited on the "Benching" of the manhole or upon metal trays fitted to the manhole walls. Prebaiting with Warfarin is unnecessary as it is a very slow poison, feeding over three to four days usually having to take place before enough is consumed to result to kill.

The poison bait is therefore deposited direct to the manhole, and where a take is recorded, is followed by repeated deposits until feeding ceases.

This method has given excellent results, although of late, reports have been made of a certain amount of immunity to Warfarin being experienced. It would therefore, appear beneficial to fall back on the prebaiting method, followed with arsenic or zinc phosphide to try and arrear this immunity.

The work of rodent control is carried out by a full-time Officer, and the following report shows the number of inspections infestations and treatments carried out during the twelve months ending 31st December, 1967.



PROPERTIES OTHER THAN SEWERS.	<u>TYPE OF PROPERTY</u>	
	Non AGRICULTURAL	AGRICULTURAL
1. No. of properties in district	3793	19
2. (a) Total number of properties (including nearby premises) inspected following notification.	1000	6
(b) No. infested by (1) Rats.	24	4
(2) Mice.	20	2
3. (a) Total number of properties inspected for rats and/or mice for reasons other than notification.	2600	17
(b) No. infested by (1) Rats.	10	5
(2) Mice.	30	3

Warfarin is used exclusively for the treatment of all surface treatments.

#### CONCLUSION

In conclusion, I must express my appreciation for the co-operation received from other Departments of the Council, and for the support and consideration extended by the Chairman and Members of the Council during the year of this report.

Yours faithfully,

J. Walters Bowen,  
M.B., B.Sc., D.P.H.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

